REPLIES TO PRE-BID QUERIES

BIDDING DOCUMENT NO.	**:**	**MKK/B988-101-MK-T-9502/2**
NAME OF WORK	**:**	**MICROTUNNELING WORKS**
OIL e-Tender no.:	**:**	**EIL2029P27**

Sl. No.	BIDDING DOCUMENT			SUBJECT	BIDDER'S QUERY	OWNER'S REPLY
	Part / VOL.	Page No.	Clause No.			
1	Part/Vol	641	3.39 (SOW)	Approach Road to Receiving Pit — Jaldhaka River Crossing	The Jaldhaka crossing falls within a notified Reserve Forest where construction of a new path is prohibited and only widening of an existing path/trail is permitted (Clause 3.39). Kindly confirm the present condition and width of the existing approach path up to the proposed Receiving Pit on the exit (far) bank at Jaldhaka, and advise whether any permission in addition to the attached forest NOC is required for its widening, to enable safe mobilization of the MTBM, cranes and pipe strings to that location.	As per Cl. No. 5.1 of Cl. No. of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document, it is the sole responsibility of the bidder to visit and inspect the site prior to submission of the bid to familiarize with all the salient features of terrain, potential hindrances, and available infrastructure including roads, access paths for mobilization of manpower, construction equipment, transportation of line pipes etc. in the vicinity of proposed installation location. Further, the tentative location of construction of shafts at each river crossing has been shown to all the participants during joint site visit prior to pre-bid meeting including existing path / trail leading to the work-site from nearest public road.

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						The permission letters issued by Statutory Authority indicating various conditions have been attached in the Bidding document. For requirement of work permits, refer Cl. No. 3.16 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with.
2	ITB / SOW	157 & 646	80.1 (SCC) / 5.2 (SOW)	Responsibility for Additional RoU on Change of Alignment	Clause 80.1 of the ITB states that the Contractor shall arrange any additional land/RoU required at no cost or time implication to the Company, whereas Clause 5.2 of the SOW states that additional land for shafts, if required based on the detailed topographic survey and finalized microtunneling profile, shall be acquired by OIL. Should the final alignment, shaft positioning or crossing profile vary from that indicated in the tender drawings, kindly confirm which provision shall prevail, and specifically confirm that OIL shall	For any additional permanent piece of land required for the construction of the shafts or laying of pipelines for tie-ins apart from existing RoU / RoW, such additional land shall be acquired by OIL. All additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes shall be arranged by the Contractor. Refer Cl. No. 3.18 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding

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					assign/acquire the additional RoU necessitated by such alignment change, with no cost or time impact to the Contractor.	document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. Also, refer Cl. No. 80.1 of SCC attached with the Bidding document.
3	SOW	631 / 632 / 634	Sec. 2.0 (Work Tendered)	Reserve-Forest Working Hours vs. Continuous MTBM Drive	Construction activity at all three crossings is restricted to sunrise-to-sunset hours on account of Reserve Forest status, while the completion period is fixed at 20 months from LOA. Kindly confirm whether this restriction applies only to above-ground/bank-side activity, or also to the continuous microtunneling/pipe-jacking drive (which is typically not stopped mid-drive), and whether any relaxation for essential round-the-clock MTBM operation has been obtained as part of the forest NOC.	The permission letters issued by Statutory Authority indicating prohibition of work during night have been attached in the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with.

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4	Part-II: SOW (Pipeline) B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502; Permission Letters / NOC	631, 632, 634; 1355, 1357	SOW 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3; NOC condition (ii)	Working hours – sunrise to sunset only	Construction is permitted only from sunrise to sunset and "in no case" at night. Microtunnelling / pipe jacking is by nature a continuous operation. A daily stoppage of 12–13 hours over drives of 500–750 m in very dense sand–cobble–boulder strata below the river bed, with high ground water, substantially increases the risk of the pipe string seizing (loss of lubrication, ground closing on the string), face instability and high re-start jacking loads. (a) Bidder requests OIL to obtain Forest Department permission for round the-clock working for the tunnelling drive, at least at the launch shaft (the Torsa NOC indicates the launching shaft is in non-forest land), the activity being confined to the fenced shaft area. (b) If night work cannot be permitted, please confirm that essential nonconstruction activities will be allowed at night within the fenced area: shaft dewatering, circulation of bentonite / lubrication to the pipe string, running of DG sets, security and watch.	The permission letters issued by Statutory Authority indicating prohibition of work during night have been attached in the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with.

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5	Part-I: IFB; SCC; Form SP-1. Part-II: SOW (Pipeline); Scope Drawing; NOC	8; 157; 562; 628, 631, 646–647; 1105; 1355–1358	IFB 1.0; SCC 80.1; SOR item 01PP.ME54; SOW 1.0, 2.1.1, 5.2; Scope Drg. Note 6	Land for shafts and working area	(a) IFB cl. 1.0 states that shafts shall be constructed "adjacent to" OIL's RoW / RoU; the SOW and Scope Drawing state that shafts shall be on the existing RoU (approx. 18 m wide) and that additional land for shafts, if required, shall be acquired by OIL; SCC cl. 80.1 and the SOR item description make the Contractor responsible for additional land and for "acquiring the required land for site preparation". Please confirm that all land required for the launch, receipt and any intermediate shafts, including the 7.5 m fenced safety zone around each shaft, will be provided by OIL free of cost. (b) The Forest NOCs permit work only within the already diverted forest land, with no tree felling, no new path and no labour camp. A launch site for an MTBM of 1600 mm ID (shaft, crane, jacking pipe stack, separation plant and slurry tanks, bentonite plant, power pack, control cabin, DG sets) typically needs a working area of the order of 40 m x 40 m, and a receipt site about 25 m x 25 m, in addition to space for carrier pipe welding. This cannot be accommodated within an 18	(a) For any additional permanent piece of land required for construction of shafts or laying of pipelines for tie-ins apart from existing RoU / RoW, such additional land shall be acquired by OIL. All additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes shall be arranged by Contractor. Refer Cl. No. 3.18 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. Also, refer Cl. No. 80.1 of SCC attached with the Bidding document. (b) All additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes shall be arranged by Contractor.

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					m RoU which already carries three live pipelines requiring 5 m clearance (SOW cl. 5.2). Please confirm who will arrange this working area inside the forest, whether additional forest permission / diversion is being obtained by OIL, and the expected time. (c) Please furnish for each crossing the RoU plan showing the positions of the existing 16" / 14" / 8" pipelines and OFC within the RoU on both banks.	Refer Cl. No. 3.18 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. (c) It is the responsibility of the Contractor to carry out pre-construction topographical survey, locate existing RoU / RoW and pipelines, sectionalising valves, OFC cables and other features prior to start of work. Refer Cl. No. 2.1 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with.

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6	Part-II: SOW (Pipeline); Permission Letters / NOC	638, 649, 652; 1355–1358	SOW 3.16, 5.6, 5.19; NOC Memo 3616/28-85 dt. 01.07.2026 and Memo 1940/28-57 dt. 03.08.2026	Statutory approvals – status and scope	Only the Forest Department NOCs are enclosed, and these are worded as permission for "repair and maintenance of the pipelines within the already diverted forest land". (a) Please confirm that the NOCs cover construction of new shafts and a new tunnel of 1600 mm ID below the river bed, and that no further forest / wildlife clearance is required for commencement (the Torsa crossing is under Jaldapara Wildlife Division). (b) Please advise the status of approval of the Irrigation & Waterways Department for commencement of work. (c) Please confirm that time taken by authorities in granting approvals / entry permissions, not attributable to the Contractor, will qualify for extension of time.	For Point No (a), it is to be noted that the permissions from Forest Authority have been attached in the Bidding document which covers the construction of new shafts and tunnels. The scope of liaising and coordination with various authorities prior to start of work lies with the Contractor as per Cl. No. 5.16 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. For Point No (b), approval from Irrigation & Waterways Department shall be intimated to the successful bidder. For Point No. (c), time extension, if any, shall be applicable in line with the provisions of Bidding document.

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7	Part-II: Geotechnical Reports – Location Plan Drawings	1151, 1227, 1305	Location plans of Torsa, Diana and Jaldhaka rivers	Proximity to railway bridge / track, road bridge and HT lines	The location plans show the proposed alignment running close to the railway track and railway bridge at all three rivers (Torsa: railway bridge about 0.08 km upstream and NH-317 bridge about 0.29 km downstream; Diana: alignment along the railway RoW), with HT towers / lines near the RoU. (a) Please confirm whether any shaft or part of the tunnel falls within railway land or within the zone of influence of the railway / road bridge foundations, and whether permission of the Railways / NHAI / PWD is required. If so, please confirm that it will be obtained by OIL. (b) Please confirm the minimum clearances to be maintained from the bridge foundations, railway track and HT towers, and whether any restriction applies to operation of cranes below / near the HT lines.	For Point No. (a), Company shall arrange in-principle approvals from statutory authorities for installation of pipeline segment across the rivers. The responsibility of the Company is limited to providing in-principle approvals. Further responsibility for obtaining all necessary approvals and work permits from concerned authorities, arranging all additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes lies with the Bidder. Bidder shall comply with the Bidding document requirements. For Point No. (b), requirement of clear distance from existing pipeline(s) or utilities, bridge / structure shall be as per Cl. No. 5.2 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. Any additional requirement stipulated by Statutory Authority, as applicable, shall be complied

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						with at no additional cost. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with.
8	Part-II: SOW (Pipeline): Permission Letters / NOC	641, 646; 1355, 1357	SOW 3.39, 5.1; NOC condition (vi)	Access to shaft locations	No new path may be constructed inside the forest; the SOW envisages widening of existing paths / trails, ramps, pontoon bridge, coffer dam etc. by the Contractor. Mobilisation involves heavy and long loads (MTBM, heavy-duty crane, separation plant, jacking pipes, 12 m line pipes on trailers). (a) Please furnish details of the existing approach to each shaft location on both banks: route, width, condition and distance from the nearest public road. (b) Please confirm that the Forest Department has agreed to widening / strengthening of the existing paths and to movement of trailers and cranes on them, as the NOC condition (vi) prohibits any "additional or new path". (c) Where a shaft location can be reached only across the river bed, please confirm that a temporary crossing (causeway / pontoon) is permitted and who will obtain the	For Point No. (a), as per Cl. No. 5.1 of Cl. No. of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document, it is the sole responsibility of the bidder to visit and inspect the site prior to submission of bid to familiarize with all the salient features of terrain, potential hindrances, and available infrastructure including roads, access paths for mobilization of manpower, construction equipment, transportation of line pipes etc. in the vicinity of proposed installation location. Further, the tentative location of construction of shafts at each river crossing has been shown to all the participants during joint

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					permission of the Irrigation & Waterways and Forest Departments.	site visit prior to pre-bid meeting including existing path / trail leading to the work-site from nearest public road. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. For Point Nos. (b) & (c), Company shall arrange in-principle approvals from statutory authorities for installation of pipeline segment across the rivers. The responsibility of the Company is limited to providing in-principle approvals. Further responsibility for obtaining all necessary approvals and work permits from concerned authorities, arranging all additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes lies with the Bidder. Bidder shall comply with the Bidding document requirements.

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9	Part-II: NOC; SOW (General Civil) B988-101-81-45-SOW-9502; Job Specification	1356,1358;1461;669, 667	Torsa NOC undertakings (i),(ii); Jalpaiguri NOC conditions (x), (xiii); Gen. Civil SOW 1.1; Job Spec. 4.18 Clause 5.16	Wildlife safety zone, fencing, early-warning system and lighting	(a) A 7.5 m fenced safety zone with 10 ft high chain-link barricade is required around each shaft. Please confirm that this fencing (and the gates) will be measured and paid under the General Civil SOR items, and that the SOR quantities cover the full perimeter at both shafts. (b) The Jalpaiguri NOC (condition x) requires an "early warning system regarding wildlife movement". Please specify the system envisaged and confirm whether it is to be provided by OIL / Forest Department; if by the Contractor, please confirm it will be paid as an extra item. (c) Please confirm who bears the charges, if any, for deployment of forest guards (SOW cl. 5.16).	For Point No. (a), SOR item is provided to cover the item. For Point Nos. (b) & (c), the permission letters issued by Statutory Authority indicating various conditions have been attached in the Bidding document. Contractor shall liaise and coordinate with various authorities prior to start of work. Informing the local forest department / authority in advance for deployment of forest-guard(s) during all activities, deployment of required early warning system and all other conditions stipulated in the respective permission letters shall be done by Contractor in consultation with respective statutory authority at no additional cost. Contractor shall build his cost accordingly.
10	Part-II: SOW (General	1462	3.3, 3.5	Ready-mix	Ready-mix concrete is specified for concreting. Considering the remote forest	Tender condition shall prevail.

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	Civil) B988-101-81-45-SOW-9502			concrete	locations and the limited working hours, please note that design-mix concrete produced at site by a weigh-batching mixer / SLM is more practical and should be acceptable for shafts and other works in this special forest case.	
11	Part-I: Annexure-IV to SCC; Annexure-II to SCC	199–201; 186–191	Key Construction Manpower and Notes; Key Construction Equipment	Key manpower	(a) Note 2 of the manpower list refers to "HDD Rig Operator" with 5 years' experience of operating HDD rigs. Please confirm that this is to be read as MTBM operator.	Bidder's understanding is correct (It to be read as MTBM operator). Please refer Commercial amendment no.1 in this regard.
12	Part-I: IFB; SCC	9; 120; 126; 128	IFB 3.0; SCC 7.1, 13.1, 13.2 (b)(iii), 13.7	Completion period and extension of time	The completion period is 20 months from LOA for each Part, inclusive of mobilisation, surveys and geotechnical investigation, design approvals, tunnelling, hook-up and commissioning. Work is permitted only from sunrise to sunset; the rivers are Himalayan-foothill rivers with high floods during the monsoon (approx. June to October), when shaft and tunnelling work on the banks is not practicable; and progress depends on statutory permissions, land to be acquired by OIL and shutdowns by OIL / IOCL. (a) Bidder requests that the completion period be revised to 24 months, or that the	Tender condition shall prevail.

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					monsoon period be excluded from the 20 months. (b) SCC cl. 13.2 (b)(iii) excludes "inclement weather conditions" from extension of time. Please confirm that floods / high river levels and stoppages imposed by the Forest Department will qualify for extension of time without PRS. (c) SCC cl. 13.7 makes extension of time the sole remedy. Bidder requests that idling of the MTBM spread and crew on account of delays attributable to Owner (land, permissions, free issue material, shutdown) beyond 15 days be compensated.	
13	Part-I: BDS; SCC	52; 119	BDS Sl. 24; SCC 6.1, 6.2	Release of work front	Work fronts are to be released as 40 % on award, 70 % at 25 % of the time period and 100 % at 50 % of the time period. Each Part is a single crossing, where tunnelling cannot commence unless the launch shaft area, the receipt shaft area and the access to both are available together. Please clarify how the percentages apply to a single crossing and confirm that encumbrance-free land for both shaft locations, the working areas and access	Tender condition shall prevail.

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					(including any additional land to be acquired by OIL and Forest Department entry permission) will be handed over within 30 days of LOA.	
14	Part-I: ITB; SCC	62; 145	ITB 15.6; SCC 55.0	BOCW cess	ITB cl. 15.6 states that the quoted price is inclusive of all taxes, duties, cess etc. "excluding BOCW Cess", whereas SCC cl. 55.0 states that the Building and Other Construction Workers' Act is "Not Applicable for this Tender". Please clarify whether BOCW cess (1 %) will be deducted from the Contractor's bills. If it is applicable, please confirm that it will be borne by OIL / reimbursed to the Contractor, as it is excluded from the quoted price and it is applicable to Basic work done value of Basic + GST = Gross value	In line with clause no. 55.0 of SCC, BOCW cess is not applicable for this Tender.
15	Part-I: Price Part – Form SP-1; Part-II: SOW (Pipeline)	565, 589, 613; 631–634, 651–652	SOR items 01PP.ME58 / ME69 / ME78; SOW 2.1.1 to 2.1.3, 5.18	Evacuation of crude / product and decommissioning – estimated rates	The estimated rates for decommissioning are INR 46 / 41 / 25 per metre for the 16" / 14" / 8" lines (Part-A total for the three lines: INR 72,800). The SOW states that evacuation of crude / product, hot-tapping for depressurisation, pumps, temporary scrapers, pigs, nitrogen, Company-approved tankers, transportation to PS-7 Madarihat / RT Siliguri / GSPL Terminal	Tender conditions shall prevail. Bidder to comply with bidding document requirements.

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					Siliguri and standby tankers are all included in this item with no separate payment. As the tender is on percentage basis over pre-filled rates applied uniformly, the bidder cannot price this activity separately. Bidder requests: (a) the estimated quantity (kl) of crude / product to be evacuated for each pipeline at each crossing, the length of section between isolation points and the lead distances to the unloading locations; and (b) that a separate lumpsum SOR item with a realistic estimate be provided for evacuation, inertisation, transportation and unloading of crude / product.	
16	Part-I: Price Part – Form SP-1; Part-II: SOW (Pipeline)	565–566, 589–590, 613–614; 641	SOR items 01PP.ME81, ME82 (and corresponding items of Parts B, C); SOW 3.33 to 3.35	Disposal of excavated material and residual slurry	Excavated material and residual slurry are to be transported to OIL's Pump Station No. 7, Madarihat or a nearby location, on lumpsum basis (excavated material: INR 13,55,068 for Part-A; INR 15,80,123 for Part-B; INR 23,70,185 for Part-C). (a) Please confirm that the same disposal location applies to the Diana and Jaldhaka	Tender conditions shall prevail. Bidder to comply with bidding document requirements.

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					crossings, and indicate the road lead considered in the estimate for each Part. (b) Please confirm that the dumping land and the related permission / NOC of the local authority will be arranged by OIL, the Contractor's scope being loading, transportation and dumping. (c) Please indicate the volume of excavated material and slurry considered in the lumpsum estimates. Any quantity beyond this (e.g. due to increased shaft depth or tunnel length) may please be paid pro-rata.	
17	Part-I: SCC; Part-II: SOW (Pipeline)	136; 638, 649, 651	SCC 28.1, 28.2; SOW 3.16, 5.6, 5.16	Statutory fees, charges and compensation	Beyond the in-principle approvals obtained by OIL, all approvals, work permits, statutory fees and "all types of compensation" to authorities and land owners are to the Contractor's account. The amounts of such charges – e.g. Forest Department charges for entry / deployment of forest guards, Irrigation & Waterways Department way-leave / supervision charges and security deposits, compensation for additional land – cannot be assessed at bid stage.	Company shall arrange in-principle approvals from statutory authorities for installation of pipeline segment across the rivers. The responsibility of the Company is limited to providing in-principle approvals. Further responsibility for obtaining all necessary approvals and work permits from concerned authorities, arranging all additional temporary land /

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					Bidder requests that statutory fees, deposits and compensation payable to Government departments and land owners be paid directly by OIL or reimbursed at actuals against documentary evidence, with the Contractor's scope limited to liaison and compliance.	area required for construction purposes lies with the Bidder. Bidder shall comply with the Bidding document requirements.
18	IFB	14 (7 of 27)	5.9	Authentication and Verification of Bidder's BQC Documents	This tender is a continuation of the previous tender. As per the BQC requirements, we had already completed the verification of the documents through an OIL-listed TPI. Since the qualification criteria remain the same as those specified in the previous tender, all BQC documents will also remain unchanged. In this regard, kindly confirm whether the documents previously verified through the OIL-listed TPI will remain valid and can be submitted for the BQC requirements of the current tender.	Not Acceptable. **Tender No. EIL2029P27 (MKK/B988-101-MK-T-9502/2)** is to be treated as a fresh tender. The documents required against BQC of tender must be verified and certified by OIL's nominated TPI agency as per **Clause No. 5.9 of IFB** of tender and the verified documents must be submitted along with the Unpriced Bid for this particular tender.
19	SCC	48 (157 of 1794)	80	Additional Land	Confirm who arranges additional land for shafts / hook-up either Contractor or OIL	For any additional permanent piece of land required for construction of shafts or laying of

REPLIES TO PRE-BID QUERIES

BIDDING DOCUMENT NO.	**:**	**MKK/B988-101-MK-T-9502/2**
NAME OF WORK	**:**	**MICROTUNNELING WORKS**
OIL e-Tender no.:	**:**	**EIL2029P27**

Sl. No.	BIDDING DOCUMENT			SUBJECT	BIDDER'S QUERY	OWNER'S REPLY
	Part / VOL.	Page No.	Clause No.			
						pipelines for tie-ins apart from existing RoU / RoW, such additional land shall be acquired by OIL. All additional temporary land / area required for construction purposes shall be arranged by Contractor. Refer Cl. No. 3.16 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. Also, refer Cl. No. 80.1 of SCC attached with the Bidding document.
20	SOW	166 (646 of 1794)	5.2	Pipeline ROW	Confirm who arranges additional land for shafts / hook-up either Contractor or OIL	For any additional permanent piece of land required for construction of shafts or laying of pipelines for tie-ins apart from existing RoU / RoW, such additional land shall be acquired by OIL. All additional temporary

REPLIES TO PRE-BID QUERIES

BIDDING DOCUMENT NO.	**:**	**MKK/B988-101-MK-T-9502/2**
NAME OF WORK	**:**	**MICROTUNNELING WORKS**
OIL e-Tender no.:	**:**	**EIL2029P27**

Sl. No.	BIDDING DOCUMENT			SUBJECT	BIDDER'S QUERY	OWNER'S REPLY
	Part / VOL.	Page No.	Clause No.			
						land / area required for construction purposes shall be arranged by Contractor. Refer Cl. No. 3.18 of SOW (Doc. No. B988-101-83-44-SOW-9502) attached with the Bidding document. All conditions of the Bidding document shall be complied with. Also, refer Cl. No. 80.1 of SCC attached with the Bidding document.